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THE FRENCH REVOLUTION OF 1789 ILLUSTRATED BY COINS AND MEDALS OF THE PERIOD.

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[Continued from Vol. 21, Page 81.]

THERE was no sincerity in the friendly demonstration of the court and the nobles. There was a constant movement of troops, and it is well understood that a plot was devised to disperse the Assembly by the use of military force. This suspicion and several conflicts in the streets between the people and the troops aroused the people of Paris to a high pitch of excitement. In the height of the commotion, the cry was raised, "*To the Bastille.*" The crowd, which was already well supplied with arms from the stores and magazines which had been plundered, at once attacked the Bastille and forced a surrender. This occurred on the 14th of July and completely frustrated the projects of the court, which were to have been executed during the night of that day.

The disorders, which during this period existed in Paris, were so violent, that the dangers to person and property were as great from the brigands of the streets as those which were feared from the royal troops. This state of things gave rise to the immediate creation of the municipality of Paris and the organization of a military force, which adopted the red and blue cockade.

The chief officer of the new civil organization was Flesselles, at the time Prevot of Paris under the former system. He was killed by the mob during the commotions which attended the attack on the Bastille. Subsequently Bailly, the President of the Assembly, was appointed to succeed him with the new title of Mayor. At the same time Lafayette was chosen commandant of the militia. He in a short time incorporated with this body some of the regular troops and a number of the Swiss Guards. This new force took the name of the NATIONAL GUARD, and assumed a new distinctive uniform. To the red and blue of the Parisian cockade, white, the king's color, was added, and there was in this manner formed the tricolor cockade, so famous during the wars which succeeded. Thus, in the organization of the National Assembly, in the creation of the municipality of Paris,—the capital of the kingdom,—and in the establishment of the National Guard, the Revolution had taken three steps of a decisive character, and each step was an advance,

The next and most important step was taken in the Assembly on the night of the 4th of August. A report from a committee on the troubles existing in the country, and on the means of removing them, was under discussion, when two members of the nobility represented that the only remedy was to remove the causes, and they proposed the renunciation of all the existing feudal privileges. A fervor of disinterestedness arose on a sudden, and there was a universal renunciation on the part of the nobles, clergy, pensionaries, and representatives of towns, of all the rights and privileges which had so long oppressed the people and made them poor. In order to connect the king with the Revolution, he was proclaimed the restorer of the liberty of the French. The action of the Assembly was, after much discussion, adopted in regular form and was presented on the 13th of August to the king, who accepted the title bestowed upon him and assisted at a *Te Deum* in company with all the deputies. The acts of abolition were transmitted to the king for proclamation on the 20th of September.

It is said by Thiers, in his *History of the Revolution*, that the aristocracy finding it could not prevent the popular movement, was willing that it might be accompanied by excesses of violence, in the hope that a reaction would soon be established. If they were governed by any consideration of this kind in the renunciation of their privileges, they overshot the mark. Of all that they gave up on this occasion, not a single privilege was ever restored to them.

Subsequently to this event the Assembly adopted other measures which completely changed the organization of the government. The old political divisions of provinces were abolished, and the country was divided into departments and districts, the latter comprising a certain number of the former. The internal administration of the government was distributed among the districts and departments. The judicial system was changed to conform to this new arrangement, and the selection of the judges was by popular local elections. A law was also passed for a similar change in the organization of the religious service. All titles of nobility were abolished. The entire property of the clergy, who possessed one-fifth of the real estate of the country, was placed at the disposition of the State, and the members of that order were allowed a salary which amounted to a liberal allowance to the poor curates, who heretofore had fared badly.

The two laws relating to the new organization of the church, and to the church property, met with all possible resistance from the greater part of the clergy. Many prominent members were active in plots against the new government, and in creating a feeling hostile to it wherever their influence extended. In order to put an end to this disaffection, the Assembly required from the clergy an oath to support the new constitution, which had been previously required from all public functionaries except the clergy. The penalty of refusal was loss of office and salary. Many took the oath, but a larger number refused and the places of the non-juring bishops and curates were promptly filled by the Assembly. The new constitution went into effect upon its acceptance by the king on the 13th of September, 1791. By its terms the sum allotted to the civil list was twenty-five millions of livres. The Assembly adjourned finally on the 30th of September.

The great change which was made in the form of government was at once indicated upon coins of a new issue. The character of the change will be

seen at a glance by comparison with the coins of the old regime. Figures 1 and 2 represent broad crowns of Louis XVI of 1789 and 1790. The obverse shows the head of the king with his title, "By the grace of God king of France and Navarre." On the reverse is the crowned shield emblazoned with the Bourbon lily. The legend, "Blessed be the name of the Lord," may be read in connection with the title, which is on the obverse, as an expression of thanks for the great dignity vouchsafed to the king. On the edge is the inscription, *DOMINE SALVUM FAC REGEM* (God save the king).

Figures 3 and 4 represent the two faces of a piece of brass of twelve deniers. On the obverse is the head of Louis XVI, no longer king of France but king of the French; on the reverse the bundle of Roman fasces surmounted by the Liberty cap and the legend "The Nation, the Law, the King," show that old things have passed away. The Nation now is supreme, and to it and to the law the king is subordinate. The date is 1791, which is further described as the third year of Liberty. The new computation of time did not begin until the following year; the designation on the coin seems to have been added as descriptive of the relation of the year 1791 to the year 1789, when the new order of things began.

There was also issued in 1791 a silver piece of twelve sous, the devices and inscriptions of which are repeated in a crown of the following year, which is chosen for illustration, as the device is better shown on the larger piece. The crown is much smaller than the crown of 1789, and is probably a piece of only five livres. On the obverse is the head of the king with the inscription, "Louis XIV King of the French," and the date 1792. On the edge is the inscription so expressive of the prevailing idea, *LA NATION, LA LOI ET LE ROI*. (The Nation, the Law and the King).

On the reverse which is shown in Figure 5, there is seen the figure of an angel standing before a pedestal which supports a large tablet. On the tablet is written the word *CONSTITUTION* and the angel continues the inscription. This symbol, in the idea it conveys, is full of interest. The feudal system with all its odious privileges had been abolished, the abuses of the church and state were both at an end, there was to be no more arbitrary imprisonment; for when the Bastille was demolished all that it represented was buried in its ruins; the government was now to exist under the benign rule of a written constitution, which bore alike on the king and the citizen; the nation was first, and its laws were to be supreme over all in the establishment of equal rights and the imposition of equal obligation. The country had never before lived under a constitution, never before had it enjoyed the right which this secured to it. It is not to be wondered that now when that constitution had been completed and definitely established as the supreme law of the country, —it is not to be wondered that there should arise an elation of feeling, under the influence of which the nation should invoke the spirit of the sacred writings, and consider the instrument as a gift from heaven sent down by its messenger to be inscribed upon the tables of the law.

The new constitution did not go into effect under favorable circumstances. The revolutionary movement had stirred society to its lowest depths and it was difficult to keep its more turbulent elements within orderly bounds. There were risings among the rural populations when chateaux were pillaged and burnt and other acts of violence were committed. After the renunciation

of feudal privileges in August, 1789, the whole population rushed to enjoy those liberties of hunting and of the chase which hitherto had been the right of only a few, and it can well be imagined that there was more than the mere absence of moderation in their enjoyment.

The demonstration on the 6th of October, which resulted in the king leaving Versailles and taking up his residence in Paris, whither he was followed by the Assembly, and the manifestation of feeling which occurred when the king was brought from Varennes, when he attempted to escape from the danger of a residence at Paris, showed very plainly what must be expected in order to secure the maintenance of social order. On the latter occasion it was deemed necessary to post in the main street where the crowd had collected, the notices, "Whoever applauds the king will be whipped, whoever insults him will be shot." In fact it seems as if all power and authority had departed from the government. The safety of society depended upon the constancy and fidelity of the National Guard with Lafayette as its commander. There was also to be encountered the hostility of the two clubs, the Jacobin and Cordelier, which survived the constitutional Assembly without any change of membership except in increase of numbers. These clubs had always favored a republic. After the king's return they made a demonstration looking to the establishment of a republic, on the ground that flight was a practical abdication. The movement was however put down by the National Guard.

Finally, that which added to the embarrassments of the position, the members of the Assembly were made ineligible to election to the new Assembly. This was an act of imprudence; as the wisest and best men of the country had composed the Assembly, and had had two years and a half of experience, it was of course to be expected that any change would be for the worse. Besides this change, Lafayette retired from the command of the army, which henceforth was exercised alternately by six chiefs of legions, and Bailly was succeeded in the mayoralty by Petion. The choice lay between Lafayette and Petion; the court was hostile to the former, although their best friend, and favored Petion, who in the end proved to be a formidable enemy.

The king and the queen expressed themselves as content with the constitution, and as determined to abide by it, and Thiers in his History seems to be satisfied that they were sincere. Soon, however, disagreements sprung up between the king and the Assembly. The nobles who had left the country, and their number was now very large, were plotting, and the non-juring priests were busy in fomenting dissatisfaction with the constitution. The Assembly passed some laws against the emigrant nobles and non-juring priests, and added a third law for the establishment of a large camp in the neighborhood of Paris. All these laws were vetoed by the king, and although he immediately approved a law against his brother, the Count d'Artois, who had been the first to leave the country, and issued a proclamation in which he commanded the return of the nobles, he lost forever the confidence of the Assembly and of the people.

In view of the intrigues of the nobles who had fled from France, and of the countenance which was extended to them by the foreign courts in which they had found refuge, a message was sent in January, 1792, by the king to the court of Vienna, demanding an explicit declaration of its purposes,

and the 1st of March was fixed as the latest date for a reply. An unexpected answer was received in April. It required of the nation the re-establishment of the three orders as they existed before the Revolution, and the restoration of the property of the clergy. The consequence of this demand was an immediate declaration of war against the king of Hungary and Bohemia, and an army was forthwith sent into the field. While its operations were not important, it yet served as a rallying point for the forces which were subsequently organized.

Under the influence of the distrust of the court and of fear of foreign invasion, a popular demonstration was prepared for the 20th of June, the anniversary of the *Fête de Paume*. Its object was the intimidation of the king. The plan was opposed by the authorities of the Department of the Seine, but Petion, the Mayor of the city, took no steps to prevent its being executed. The subject was discussed in the Assembly, but it was favored by one of the leaders of the Girondins, who were then the dominant constitutional party in the Assembly. While the discussion was going on, the mob appeared and entered the hall. The crowd was composed of men and women of the lowest class from the faubourgs; the men were armed, and paraded coarse and insulting devices of every kind; a large number of the National Guard marched among them. There were thirty thousand people of all sorts in the procession, which occupied three hours in passing through the hall. The palace of the Tuilleries, occupied by the king, was next visited. After some delay its doors were opened and the crowd inundated the building; menacing addresses were made to the king, and he was invited to put on the red cap of liberty, but neither violence nor robbery was committed. This demonstration settled nothing. It only showed how easy it was to excite the mob of Paris, and what might be expected from future risings.

It was soon known that the foreign powers of Austria and Prussia were about to enforce by invasion the demand made in the letter of January. An army of sixty thousand veteran troops under the command of the Duke of Brunswick, who was supported by officers of experience, was already at the frontier. The whole country was in a state of excitement, but nothing of a practical character was proposed. France was declared in danger by the Legislative Assembly. This still further aroused the populace, and crowds marched to Paris, whose only occupation seemed to be the preparation for another insurrection that should accomplish another Revolution. The people feared not only the arrival of a foreign army, but suffered under vague apprehensions of danger from the royalists at home. They became impatient under the inactivity of the authorities and wearied under the useless eloquence exhibited in the Assembly. A committee of insurrection was formed in the Jacobin Club, which deliberately and carefully planned a demonstration at the Tuilleries that would force the king to abdicate. Some five hundred *patriots*—as they were called—were brought from Marseilles to take part in the movement. While the passions of the public were roused in this manner, they were still further excited by a proclamation issued on the 26th of July by the Duke of Brunswick, expressed in the most threatening and insulting terms. The only mode by which the people could save their lives, and preserve their property, their towns and cities from destruction, was by sitting still and calmly awaiting the approach of the army of deliverance.

It is strange that any one should for a moment have thought that a proclamation of this character would intimidate a nation which had already achieved and sustained such a revolution as was indicated by the new constitution. The only effect of this manifesto was to stimulate preparations for the coming insurrections. At the same time the mayor, Petion, presented to the Assembly a petition from all the sections of Paris, demanding the deposition of the king. The discussion of the proposition was postponed until the 10th of August. It was now definitely arranged that the insurrection, which had several times been postponed, should take place on the night of the 9th of August. The crowd assembled at the appointed time. The mayor appeared at the palace but soon left, and by arrangement was kept a willing prisoner at the Hotel de Ville. A new municipal council was established by the mob. Mandal, the general at that time in command of the National Guard, who was supervising the defence of the palace, was summoned to the Hotel de Ville and was murdered. Thiers says, that if the king had been resolute and aggressive in his conduct, the crowd could easily have been dispersed. Although the king was courageous he was irresolute, and there was no one to head and direct the defence. The mob was admitted to the palace, and the friends of the king advised him that the only means of saving himself and his family was to take refuge with the Assembly, which held its sessions but a short distance from the Tuilleries. This advice was followed, and the royal family left the palace never to return.

The king was protected by the Assembly, but in his presence a decree of suspension was passed and a National Convention was convoked. The king and his family were, as a matter of precaution in favor of their safety, kept for several days in the building occupied by the Assembly, and were finally sent on the 30th of August to the Temple, to be kept in close confinement in the charge of the Commune of Paris. After the departure of the king from the Tuilleries, a murderous combat ensued and a large number was killed on both sides; the mob finally conquered, and then all who were found in the palace or fleeing from it, with few exceptions, were instantly slain. It is stated in some accounts that at least four thousand persons were killed.

After the passage of the act suspending the king, events marched rapidly. The Assembly made the necessary provisions for carrying on the government, but it was no longer supreme. The Commune of Paris was now the ruling power. An attempt was made by the Assembly to control it by a reorganization of the council of the department, but on the demand of the Commune the powers of the new council were limited to the supervision of the finances of the department. There soon arose a clamor for the punishment of those who had resisted the insurrection, and on the 13th of August the Commune demanded the creation of a tribunal for the "trial of the conspirators of the 10th of August." The Assembly at first rejected the proposition; a second demand was made, which was also rejected. Finally, a member of the municipality appeared before the Assembly, and announced in plain terms that if the court was not organized as demanded, the tocsin would be sounded that night, and the faubourgs would be again summoned to action. The Assembly yielded, and passed a law which established a court to "*judge the crimes of the 10th of August and all circumstances relating to it.*" The court was divided into two sections and their judgment was final. This law was passed

on the 17th of August. The new court, however formidable in the scope of its jurisdiction, was soon superseded by measures still more revolutionary in their character.

On the 22d of August, Longwy, a small and untenable post on the frontier, was surrendered to the invading army. The fact was known in Paris four days later, and produced the utmost consternation. In the imagination of the excited Parisians, the enemy was at the gates of the city. Measures of defence were at once adopted by the government, but the greater degree of energy was exhibited by the Commune of Paris against those whom they considered the enemies at home. Danton, who was the master spirit of the insurrection of the 10th of August, repaired to the Commune, and at his suggestion a decree was passed that all "suspected persons" should be disarmed and arrested. This decree was executed in the most efficient manner. On the morning of the 27th the gates of the city were closed and no one was permitted to pass out on any pretence whatever. The river was patrolled and all issue by that route was prevented. For forty-eight hours all business was suspended and the entire population was required to confine itself to its place of residence. The committee of surveillance of the Commune, at whose head was Marat, the meanest and most detestable of all the prominent men of the Revolution, was charged with the examination of the population thus shut up, and with the arrest of "suspected persons." The result was the arrest of some twelve to fifteen thousand persons of every grade of society, of every shade of opinion, of men whose only crime was a preference of order to disorder, and of many who were denounced by their personal enemies.

The persons arrested were brought before the Commune and questioned as to their conduct and opinions, and then distributed among the prisons of the city. This large number of citizens was arrested in order to be murdered, and after news was received of the capture of Verdun, a post less tenable than Longwy, the signal was given and the massacre began. On the 2d of September self-constituted tribunals, composed of the lowest class, organized at the different prisons, and after a hasty trial delivered the prisoners, with but few exceptions, to executioners, who murdered them on the spot. The massacre continued for four days and nights and only ceased when all the prisons were emptied not only of the "suspected persons," who had been confined there, but of petty malefactors who had been imprisoned by judicial authority. As might be easily imagined there were revolting scenes of brutality, that was more than mere cruelty, even to read a description of which makes one blush. The actors in these scenes demanded and received from the committee of the Commune pay for their services. The demand was made with a threat of death to the committee in case of refusal. The members emptied their pockets and finally succeeded in securing the necessary amount. The records of the Commune show that on the 14th of September the sum of fourteen hundred and sixty-three livres had been disbursed in payment of the executioners.

Many robberies were committed in connection with murders, but in many instances the personal effects of value taken from the victims were left at the office of the prison. All such property, together with the plunder gathered from the churches and from the houses of those who had fled from the country, were appropriated by the Commune, which refused to render any

account of them. The disorganization of society in the capital did not cease when no more prisoners were found for execution. Over fifty political prisoners, who had sometime before been sent to Orleans for trial, were ordered to be brought to Paris. When it was known in the city that they were on the way, a large number of the bandits of the streets went to Versailles, overpowered the guard, and in spite of all the efforts of the mayor of the town, took possession of the prisoners and murdered every one of them. But a few days elapsed before the storehouses, in which the large collection of valuable objects of every kind belonging to the crown was stored, were broken open and pillaged and not an article was ever recovered.

While the city was in this condition of disorder, Petion, the mayor, was powerless, but it is not known that he was very strenuous in his efforts to put an end to the acts of violence, and all that the Assembly thought of doing was to pass decree after decree, demanding from the Commune an account of the condition of the city, and this, too, while every prison of the city was running night and day with blood like the shambles of a butcher. The excuse for this premeditated slaughter of some twelve thousand helpless prisoners, was that it was not safe to send an army to the field while the royalists remained at home to plot and attack in the rear. Said the instigators of the massacre, "It is either they or we who must perish."

After the slaughters of the earlier days of September, the city and country was in a most deplorable state of disorder, but it was expected that a better condition of things would be brought about by the Convention, which was ordered at the time of the suspension of the king on the 10th of August. This Convention assembled on the 20th of September. It was composed for the most part of the same men who were members of the Legislative Assembly. There were some who had been in the Constituent Assembly, and among them was Robespierre; Petion was chosen President. The Girondists were as before in the ascendant, and so far as facility of speech was concerned they constituted the most formidable party in the Convention, but not otherwise were they powerful. They had control of the new administration, but the Jacobin Club was the real power of the country. It supervised and corrected the conduct of administrative offices, and was looked to as the arbiter of all questions, from those of state to those of the domestic relations.

On the 22d of September royalty was abolished by an unanimous vote. This date was by law established as the beginning of a new era. As if time had just begun, the 22d of September was the first day of the YEAR ONE. A medal by Duvivier was struck to commemorate the promulgation of this fantastic notion. On the obverse is a seated female figure of majestic and graceful form; on her head is the helmet of Minerva, her right hand rests on the Roman fasces, and in her left hand is a staff surmounted by the cap of Liberty. The inscriptions are, REPUBLIQUE UNE ET INDIVISIBLE, and below is NATION FRANCAISE. The reverse is a segment of the zodiacal circle, showing the Scales, the Crab, and the Archer; below is the inscription, ERE FRANCAISE COMMENCÉE A L'EQUINOX D'AUTOMNE 22 SEPT 1792 9 HEURS 18 MIN 30 S DU MATIN A PARIS, which announces that the French Era began at the time of the autumnal equinox on the 22d of September, 1792, at eighteen minutes and thirty seconds past nine o'clock in the morning.

[To be continued.]

ROMA REDIVIVA IN WISCONSIN.

Not long since a votive medal, stamped by some emperor of ancient Rome, was picked up by a boy in one of the streets of Milton, Wis., and sold there for a stick of candy. It was sent to me by the new owner, who, not being a classical scholar, could not understand the inscription. What chiefly surprised me was that it had turned up in the spot where it did. "Who in Milton," I said to myself, "has ever had any Roman coins to lose? or, if any Miltonian had lost such an antique, would he not have claimed his property when the discovery of the votive treasure-trove was noised about the village?" A description of this ancient relic appeared in the *State Journal*, and brought me many letters concerning other strange finds in the strangest places, and sometimes the finds themselves, for deposit in the Historical Society, as the place where they are most sure to be preserved, admired, studied, and appreciated.

One windfall of this sort has come to me by the favor of John Hicks, Esq., one of the editors of the *Oshkosh Northwestern*. It is a copper coin minted in the reign of the Emperor Hadrian, who died in the year 138 of our era. It is therefore at least seventeen hundred and forty-five years old. The coin is in good preservation. The imperial head is in higher relief than any ever stamped on any American coin, and will outlast them all. It is perfectly preserved. The beard which, according to Spartianus, no emperor wore before Hadrian,—and he in order to hide a scar,—is clearly visible. You can plainly read on one side of the bust the word "Hadrianus" and on the other side the letters "gustus," the first two letters in the name Augustus having been defaced.

On the reverse of this piece the emperor is portrayed at full length with a long sceptre or spear in his right hand, and a trophy in his left. But what I call a trophy is perhaps a figure of the goddess Victory and is a good deal defaced. The lettering is more distinct. The syllable "Cos." the abbreviation for Consul, and the initials S. C. indicating that the coin was minted and the consul created by the order of the senate are altogether legible.

This bit of copper, picked from the worm holes of long vanished days, and from the dust of old oblivion raked, would be of some interest if I had picked it up amid the ruins of Caesar's palace. But it is of a thousand-fold more interest from the circumstances under which it came to light. What were they? It was found in Oshkosh, Wis., in the Fourth Ward, near Miller's Point, on the shore of Lake Winnebago, by Mr. A. M. Brainerd, while at work in his field there; that is, while plowing or hoeing. Two stone axes of the usual aboriginal stamp and some other trifles, presumably of the same origin, have turned up on the same plat of ground. "How came this Roman money into the soil of Wisconsin," is a question everyone asks and which no one can answer.

It strikes me as very improbable that this copper was brought to Oshkosh by any Anglo-Saxon. I would rather think it to have been brought to America, say two centuries ago, by some French missionary, and either stolen from him by some native who lost it where it was found, or dropped there by the Frenchman while camping there on some missionary tour. But antiques, like that I speak of, are rare now-a-days. Two centuries ago they were ten times more rare, the chief European hoards of them not having been as yet unearthed. How then should the French priests, who were very poor, have such rarities? Why should they bring them into the wilderness? Why should they care for such mementoes of pagan persecutors of their faith? Every new find of the sort increases our wonder that it should come from French ecclesiastics.

Let me add another possible solution of the mystery, which I shall rejoice to give up as soon as a better is suggested. Hadrian's money circulated among one hundred and twenty millions of his subjects. It passed beyond the imperial boundaries to India and China, for the Romans had then pushed their commerce thither. Why may not some straggling bits of Hadrianic money have wandered still further, and even crossed that streak of silver sea which separates Asia and America? If so, the passage of coins from Alaska to Oskosh would be easily accounted for. Prehistoric commerce between the Pacific and Wisconsin is demonstrated by the arrows of obsidian

picked up along Lake Winnebago,—and the raw material for which cannot be detected *in situ* nearer than the Pacific slope, or at least the Yellowstone National Park,—which according to aboriginal ideas was harder of access.

Every find like those in Milton and Oshkosh adds some infinitesimal to other proofs which do demonstrate thinly that the mintage of the old world may have made its way into the new from the west, and that, perhaps, ages before the Columbian or even Norwegian voyages. As many relics of this nature have been sent me for inspection, I have no doubt others will, and the more, as I return every curiosity on request, and spare no pains to show its significance.

Madison, Wis.

J. D. BUTLER.

A BRITISH ARMY MEDAL.

AN extremely rare and curious military medal, says the *Charleston (S. C.) News and Courier*, was recently found on the premises of E. B. Chapman. On one side it has the words: "For courage, good conduct and faithful service. Hindostan. 71st Highland Light Infantry. Ten years' service." On the other side are the words: "Peninsula, Roleia, Vimiera, Vittoria, Almaraz, Nive, Pyrenees, Orthes, Waterloo, Fuentes D'Onor." The medal is made of composition metal, and is about one and a half inches in diameter. Above and below the words "71st Highland Light Infantry" are a crown and a hunting-horn respectively, and on the other side is an oval-shaped figure enclosing the cross of St. Andrew, beside which is standing a barefooted pilgrim, the beauty of whose visage has been destroyed by the abrasion of the metal and the lapse of time. As may be inferred from the names Vittoria, Vimiera, and Waterloo, the original possessor of the medal was one who followed the English flag through the Spanish Peninsula in the war which ended at Waterloo in 1815. The other legend of the medal indicates that the battle-scarred Highlander won new honors and laurels in a later service in East India. How the medal got to Charleston would be hard to divine, but it is evidently a genuine military relic. It tells a very eloquent tale, and is the mute historian of an old soldier's proud record in peace and in war. It resembles many good things of fiction and romance only in the respect that it is anonymous. The kilted warrior left everything but his name to tell the story.

A PROVINCIAL NOTE RAISER.

LAST Friday a Man who calls himself Shebuel Hubbard, and says he belongs to Groton, was apprehended and sent to Gaol; he having in a different Dress, and by different Names, viz. Parker, Parks and Fairbanks, four Times receiv'd Warrants or Orders from the Committee appointed by the General Court for receiving and burning the Bills of Credit of this Province, to the Treasurer, for Nineteen Pounds and some odd Shillings, old Tenor, each, which he wickedly alter'd into Ninety Pounds, letting the odd Sum stand; three of which being paid in Silver, a Discovery of the Fraud was made; and notwithstanding Enquiry was made after him, having got a fourth Order just before by a different Name and in a different Habit, he had the Confidence to go to the Treasury to get it exchange'd, where he was immediately siez'd. Upon his Examination he made many trifling Excuses; but the Cheat appearing so very plain, he at last confess'd the whole, and that the Money was at his Lodgings, to which he directed the Sheriff, where was found Ninety Dollars, besides Coppers, and sundry other Things.

The Boston Weekly News-Letter, September 13, 1750.

This Day Shebuel Hubbard of Groton is to stand two Hours in the Pillory, pursuant to a Sentence of the Superiour Court, for altering and forging several Warrants from the Committee, to the Treasurer, for exchanging Bills of this Province for Dollars, as mention'd in the public Prints some Time since: He is likewise to suffer three months Imprisonment.

The Boston Weekly News-Letter, December 13, 1750.

SPARKS FROM THE MINT FIRE.

It has been queried, of late, whether the Mint did not, in its early days, suffer a partial destruction by fire. A few of us yet in the service have some traditional knowledge of such an event, but, in addition to that, it is in my power to furnish a copy of the official correspondence of my great grandfather, Robert Patterson, who was at that time Director of the Mint.

Perhaps this would be a good time, too, to show how the father of the Democracy made some of his appointments. Dr. Patterson was occupying the chair of mathematics at the University when he received from President Jefferson the following letter:—

“WASHINGTON, APRIL 27, '05.

“DEAR SIR,—I have learned *indirectly* that Mr. Boudinot will shortly resign the office of Director of the Mint. In that event, I should feel very happy in confiding the public interests in that place to you. Will you give me leave to send you the commission in the event of Mr. B.'s resignation. I pray you to consider this as confidential, as what you write me shall be. Accept my friendly salutations.

TH. JEFFERSON.

“P.S.—I should be sorry to withdraw you from the College, nor do I conceive that this office need do it. Its duties will easily admit of your devoting the ordinary college hours to that institution; indeed it is so possible that the Mint may sometime or other be discontinued that I could not advise a permanent living to be given up for it.”

Endorsed, “Mr. Robert Patterson, College, Philadelphia.”

Mr. Patterson accordingly accepted, and continued to hold both positions for several years afterward, but ultimately let go of the College and held on to the Mint until failure in health compelled his resignation in 1824.

But to return to the conflagration, some account of which ought to be a legitimate part of the proceedings of a Numismatic and Archaeological Society.* The correspondence following will tell the whole story.

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES, JANUARY 11, 1816.

SIR,—I have the mortification to inform you that this morning, about two o'clock, a fire broke out in the mill house, a wooden building belonging to the Mint, which is consumed together with an adjoining building containing the rolling and drawing machines, and also the melting house. The front part of the building, containing the coining presses, the office and the Assayer's Department, is uninjured. “The manner in which the fire originated is perfectly unaccountable. No fire is even kept in the part of the building where it was first discovered; nor had any of the workmen been there for some days.

“No loss of gold or silver will be sustained of any consequence, nor will the copper coinage be in the least impeded.

“I shall not fail to give you further necessary information on this unpleasant subject as soon as an examination can be made, and the damages ascertained.

“I am, Sir, with the greatest esteem,

“Your most obedient servant,

“ROBERT PATTERSON.”

“James Madison, Esq., President of the United States, Washington City.”

The next letter is dated Jan. 15th, and continues the subject as follows:—

“On the morning of the 11th I had the painful task of acquainting you with the destruction of a part of the Mint by fire. At the time its origin was entirely unknown and unsuspected by any of the officers or workmen belonging to the establishment; but on examining a barrel in a neighbouring yard partly filled with wood ashes, taken from the hearths of an adjoining dwelling-house, and which had been set in actual contact with the weather boarding of our mill-house, a wooden building, where the fire was first discovered, no doubt remains that here the fire originated. Several distressing fires in this city and elsewhere, particularly that by which the Lutheran Church in Fourth Street was some years ago consumed, have been ascertained to have proceeded from a similar cause.

“As there are not at present, nor are there likely to be for some time, any deposits of bullion in the Mint of any consequence, the publick, therefore, will not probably experience any

* This paper was prepared for and read before a recent meeting of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society of New York by Mr. Dubois.

inconvenience from the above disaster until the damages can be repaired; and I am happy to be able to assure you that this can be done, and that on a much improved plan, without any special appropriation for that purpose, merely from the balance of former appropriations not yet carried to the surplus fund. But, Sir, I would not presume to make these repairs without your approbation."

The next letter touching the subject is dated March 6th, 1816, and is also addressed to the President. After alluding to the ordinary repairs, the Director says:—

"But the repairs which the late fire has now rendered necessary being so considerable, I would not venture to undertake without your approbation, which is therefore, sir, most respectfully solicited.

"No estimate of the expenses or time necessary for these repairs can at present be made with any degree of accuracy; but it is believed that the balances of the two last years' appropriations, not yet carried to the surplus fund, together with that for the present year, will be more than sufficient; and that the whole may be accomplished in eight or ten months from the time of commencement.

"In truth, except the mere building, which was ill-contrived and of little value, no great loss has been sustained by the fire. The principal parts of the machinery were, in fact, nearly worn out, and must have been replaced in a short time tho' no such accident had occurred.

"The only difficulty at present foreseen will be in procuring rollers; two or three pair of which would be wanted. These can, I believe, be best obtained through the agency of Mr. Boulton of Soho, the gentleman who has for many years supplied the Mint with copper; but in answer to a letter which I addressed to him some years ago on the subject of rollers, he informed me that they were among the articles which could not be exported without obtaining permission from Government. This, however, might probably be effected thro' the application of our Minister at London."

Then follows a letter addressed to Alexander J. Dallas, Esq., Secretary of the Treasury, expressing his pleasure that the President has approved his plan, and "Drafts, sir, will therefore be made from time to time on this balance, etc., etc."

Next follows a letter, ordering "three pair of hard cast rollers, etc., etc."

On the first of Jan., 1817, Director Patterson wrote as follows:—

"The repairs of the Mint, which you were pleased to authorize, are now nearly completed. A substantial brick building has been erected on the site formerly occupied by an old wooden building; and in the apparatus and arrangement of machinery which have been adopted, many important improvements have been introduced. Among these is the substitution of a steam engine for the horse power heretofore employed; a change which it is believed will not only diminish the expense of the establishment, but greatly facilitate all its principal operations."

The last spark of the fire dies out of the correspondence in the following paragraph from the letter accompanying the Annual Report, dated Jan. 1st, 1818, and addressed to President James Monroe, by Director Patterson.

"About the beginning of May, the repairs of the Mint having been nearly completed, and a considerable quantity of silver bullion then in our vaults, the coinage was recommenced; and, since that time, as will appear from the statement of the Treasurer, herewith transmitted, there have been struck, in silver coins, 1,215,567 pieces, etc., etc."

It is not necessary to enter into any statistical tables here, as these are to be found elsewhere in published reports.

But the correspondence quoted may throw a not unwelcome gleam of light into some dusky numismatic corners. We have, at least, the real history of the change from horse-power to steam-power in the Mint. Better than that, we are furnished with the reason why our cabinets are wanting in gold and silver issues for 1816. If the foregoing letters only tell by *implication*, that there was no such coinage, the following letter settles the matter directly.

It is dated at the United States Mint, Philadelphia, February 6, 1817, and is addressed to Richard Peters, Judge of the U. S. District Court, Charles Jared Ingersoll, Attorney General, and William White, Commissioner of Loans.

SIRS, — "As there has been no coinage of the precious metals at the Mint since the last annual assay, it may, perhaps, be unnecessary for the Commissioners to attend on Monday next, the time appointed by law for that purpose.

Yours most respectfully,

ROBERT PATTERSON.

As a side reflection from the fire, nothing more truly portrays the growth of the nation than the relative interest shown in minor events like this. One can scarcely imagine President Cleveland sitting in patient perusal of these stately steppings over a barrel of ashes "from the hearths of an adjoining dwelling-house"!

PATTERSON DUBOIS.

THE NEWPORT MEDAL.

BY HORATIO R. STORER, M. D., NEWPORT, R. I.*

To students of the visible memorials of history nothing is more fascinating or ordinarily more satisfactory and convincing than the medals which have been struck to commemorate contemporaneous important events. That evidence of this kind sometimes proves unreliable, as in instances that I have on another occasion brought to the attention of the Society, the giving 1872 for example upon the first issue of the Swiss medal by Landry†, instead of 1873, as the date of the death of Agassiz, invalidates the importance of numismatics far less than do the errors of contemporaneous historical writers the ultimate conclusions that are reached by history, so very rare are they in comparison.

The numismatic history of Rhode Island seems yet to have been unwritten, and yet there are several medals of Perry, three of which at least were struck at the U. S. Mint, one of Nathaniel Greene, and Gilbert Charles Stuart, and quite a number of tokens issued by the business men of the State during the panic of 1834-7, and again in the course of the Great Rebellion. The Society already possesses several of these, namely, the Providence W. A. Handy, and varieties of the Frank L. Gay, H. Dobson, Charnley, and Phillips tokens, and it is to be hoped may soon be able to complete the series. I shall be glad to receive from collectors descriptions or rubbings of any piece thought to belong to Rhode Island, and will give due credit in the paper that I have now in preparation.

There exists an old satirical piece, struck long ago in Holland, representing the inhabitants of Newport fleeing across the island to their boats in the East River, R. I., to escape the victorious ships of Admiral Howe, which lie in the central mouth of the Bay, ranging from Coddington's Cove to Bristol Ferry. This has long been known to numismatists as the Rhode Island Medal, most unfortunately for the reputation of the valiant forefathers of the town. Authentic copies of it are scarce, but since the great awakening of interest that now obtains in everything of the kind that relates to the United States of America, whether medals, coins, tokens or store cards, reproductions have been made that are at times difficult to distinguish from the original medal, or medals, for there are two or three varieties, but slightly distinct from each other, though struck from different dies. It is described in the *American Journal of Numismatics*, II, 53, 80. Of this medal I have myself but a single specimen, and the Society as yet possesses but a composition cast, which is now exhibited. Its features are the following:

Obv. The island of Rhode Island; to the west three frigates at anchor; to the east thirteen boats, four of which are empty, in two lines; upon the island, in four rows, nineteen Americans in double quick movement towards the east. Inscription, D'vlugtende AMERICAANEⁿ van ROHDE YLAND Aug^t 1778 (the fleeing Americans of Rhode Island). *Exergue*, Two crossed palm branches.

* This paper was read before the Newport (R. I.) Historical Society, 19 April, 1886, and has been kindly furnished the *Journal* by Dr. Storer.

† Rüppell, Beitrag zur Kenntniss der numismatischen Erinnerungen an Aerzte und Naturforscher. Wien, 1876, p. 55.

Rev. The British flagship, headed towards the east. Inscription, DE ADMIRAALS FLAG van ADMIRAAL HOWE 1779

The present paper describes what much more worthily illustrates our city's record. I find that many Newporters have forgotten, there are many indeed who apparently were not aware of, the very existence of this beautiful memorial, as yet unknown to numismatists, who will hereafter always speak of it as The Newport Medal. You will be quite sure to be interested in its history.

Upon 8 June, 1875, Mr. Benjamin Baker Howland, an original member of this Society, long its librarian and keeper of its cabinet, and who to these tastes added that of a skillful amateur in painting, completed his fiftieth year of continuous service as an official of the city of Newport. When it was proposed again to re-elect him, he declined, upon the ground that it was hardly worth while for him to commence another half a hundred years of labor, which he would be sure not to live to finish.

Five months later, upon 2 Nov., 1875, the following petition was presented to the City Council. It is copied from the original paper at the City Hall, in the handwriting of the late Dr. King, then President of this Society. Its signers were representative of the intelligence, influence and wealth of Newport, most of them at the time also your members. Of these, our venerable President, Mr. Francis Brinley, and Messrs. Sheffield, Mason, Hammett, Lawton and Cozzens still retain connection with the Society.

"To the Honourable, the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of the City of Newport:

"The subscribers feel that the valuable services during the long period of fifty years, of your late Town Clerk, richly entitle him to some public testimonial. Such a testimonial, besides being a mark of the general esteem, would be a fresh public recognition of the proper performance of his official duty, and a fair acknowledgment of the faithful fulfillment of the important trusts committed, in past time, to his care.

"Wherefore, they humbly pray, that such a public testimonial as the City Government shall judge best, be presented to Benjamin B. Howland, Esq.

"All of which is respectfully submitted to your consideration.

"David King	John T. Bush	Julius Sayer	W. C. Cozzens
Benj. Finch	Geo. C. Mason	E. W. Lawton	Oliver Read
Chas. C. Van Zandt	John S. Coggeshall	Francis Brinley	Francis Stanhope
W. P. Sheffield	Chas. E. Hammett, Jr.	Wm. Sherman	John F. Tennant

"Newport, Rhode Island,

"November 2, 1875."

The petition is endorsed as follows:

"In Bd. Aldm., Nov. 2, 1875. Read, rec'd & ref'd to a Special Committee, Aldm. Weaver appointed on the part of this Board. Benjamin Marsh, 2d, City Clerk."

"In Common Council, Nov. 2, 1875. Concurred in and Councilmen Case and Greene appointed on the part of this Board. Alex. N. Barker, Clerk."

There occurs the following entry, the same day, upon the Records of the Board of Aldermen:

"2 Nov. 1875. Petition for testimonial to B. B. Howland read, received and referred to Special Committee consisting of Alderman Weaver and Councilmen Case and Greene."

Mr. Weaver is now, as then, an Alderman of the city, and still a member of this Society. As will subsequently appear, by implication, this Committee deputed Dr. David King, the first of the signers of the petition, to act in its behalf. Upon 2 May, 1876, in Joint Convention, the Committee was "authorized to expend not exceeding \$200."

5 June, 1876. In Convention. "Alderman Weaver called the Convention to order, and the medal was presented to Mr. Howland by Dr. King."

In the *Newport Mercury* of 10 June, 1876, under the title of "A Fitting Memorial," there is found a brief sketch of the simple ceremony, which does not seem however to have attracted the attention of the *Daily News*.

Dr. King thus prefaced the presentation of the medal:

"Mr. Mayor and Members of the City Council:

"Allow me to arrest your proceedings, while I perform a duty entrusted to my care. In recognition of the great truth of the absolute necessity of integrity in our public offices and in our official transactions, you have caused this medal, which I hold in my hand, to be struck, and ordered it presented to your late City Clerk, Benjamin B. Howland; a transaction highly honorable to those who give and to him who receives. The medal is of gold: on one side are inscribed the City Arms; on the other side is the following inscription, 'The City of Newport (Rhode Island) to Benjamin B. Howland. A Testimonial for faithful public services to Newport, during a period of fifty years.' This medal was struck at the U. S. Mint, Philadelphia, and was kindly superintended by Gov. James Pollock, the Superintendent of that institution, to whose care and interest in this matter the city of Newport is greatly indebted.

"The medal, I have said, is of gold, comparatively worthless and perishable in itself, but may be considered priceless in regard to the public virtue it acknowledges, it recognizes, it commemorates. I present this medal to this faithful officer, knowing that, in his case, virtue is its own reward; but knowing, too, that the medal will be priceless to his posterity, as the evidence of the public commendation of their worthy ancestor."

Mr. Howland replied, it is said, "briefly and feelingly," but his remarks do not seem to have been preserved. He subsequently lived some sixteen months, dying upon 21 Oct., 1877, at the ripe old age of eighty-nine years and ten months, — having been born on 11 Dec., 1787.

The record is closed by the following entry: —

Board of Aldermen, 6 June, 1876. "The Committee appointed to procure the medal to be presented to B. B. Howland, our late City Clerk, having entrusted the whole business to David King, M. D., and the medal having arrived on the anniversary of our City organization, and being presented just previously to that organization, the City Government are now prepared to pass the resolutions appropriate to the case.

"1st. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Board be presented to David King, for his interest and care in this matter.

"2d. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Board be presented to Gov. James Pollock, the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint in Philadelphia, for his careful supervision in the execution of the medal in that institution.

"3d. *Resolved*, That the copy of the gold medal, in silver, be presented to the Newport Historical Society, and the dies for the time being deposited in that institution."

Careful inquiry of the officers of the Society, as well as of City Clerk Stevens, since that time Clerk to the Board of Aldermen, Probate Clerk Barker, then as now Clerk to the Common Council, City Treasurer Coggeshall, and Alderman Weaver, to whom the matter had been first entrusted as Chairman of the original Joint Committee, failed to give me any clue as to the present whereabouts of the silver medal above referred to, or the dies. I wrote to Mr. W. Howland of New York, the engraver of the City Seal, thinking that possibly it might have been he who cut the dies of the medal, though this bears no signature or other clue; and I also addressed my inquiries to Hon. James P. Kimball, the present Director of the U. S. Mint. Though no record has been found empowering it to do so, the general impression of the city officials, past and present, has been that the Committee caused to be struck and delivered to each of the aldermen and councilmen, and probably also to the mayor then in service (the veteran City Treasurer was *not* remembered), in all fifteen or sixteen in number, a bronze copy of the gold medal, one of which is undoubtedly the specimen in the Society's cabinet, now exhibited, recently received from a donor as yet unknown. In the resolution of the Aldermen, above given, it seems plainly stated that there was but one copy of the medal intended to be taken in silver. "The copy in silver" should be therefore unique, and wherever or in whose possession it may eventually be found, it is clearly the property of the Society. I therefore recommend that the President be requested and authorized to enter into such correspondence as may eventually recover the missing treasure. It is to be regretted that the bronze copies were not inscribed upon their face, or still better upon their rim, which would not have marred the appearance of the medal, with the name of the recipient, as this would have added value to them for historical purposes, and pecuniarily to their eventual worth as cabinet specimens, since it would have been a check upon any possible unauthorized issue of other copies of the medal in this metal. The description of the medal is as follows:

Obv. Within a corded circle, a facsimile of the City Seal, namely, a view of Newport from Narragansett Bay, outside the Breakwater. Below, upon the waves, SETTLED | 1639. Inscription, CITY OF NEWPORT R. I. INCORPORATED 1784. | RECHARTERED | 1853.

Rev. Within a corded circle, A TESTIMONIAL | FOR | FAITHFUL | PUBLIC SERVICES | TO | NEWPORT | DURING A PERIOD | OF | FIFTY YEARS | — + — | 1876 Upon the margin, THE CITY OF NEWPORT RHODE ISLAND. | TO BENJAMIN B. HOWLAND. Edges lined. Bronze. Size, 32 of American scale, in sixteenths of an inch. 50 millimetres, by foreign scale.

My thanks are due to Messrs. Wm. G. Stevens, City Clerk, Alexander N. Barker, Probate Clerk, and Benjamin Marsh, 2d, formerly City Clerk, for their valuable aid in searching the City Records, and attempting to discover the present place of deposit of the missing silver medal and dies.

Since writing the above, I have received the following reply from the U. S. Mint.

" March 15th, 1886.

"SIR:—In reply to your inquiry of the 11th inst., I have to state, that in the month of June, 1876, 1 gold, 2 silver, and 50 bronze 'B. B. Howland' medals were struck at this Mint, and forwarded to Dr. King at Newport. The dies were made by Wm. Barber, Engraver (now deceased), and were forwarded to Dr. King after the medals were struck. We have none of the medals on hand.

"Very respectfully,

"D. M. Fox, *Superintendent.*

"H. R. STORER, M. D.,

"Treas. Newport Historical Society,

"Newport, R. I."

From the preceding letter, not merely is the missing link discovered, regarding the identity of the engraver of the dies, but it appears that there are in existence, in addition to the silver medal which is the property of this Society, a second copy in silver, and a surplus of no less than thirty-four, possibly thirty-five, copies in bronze, over and above those which were given to the fifteen or sixteen members of the City Government in 1876,—and the locality to which the dies were sent from the Mint has now been ascertained. The vote of the City which committed them to the custody of the Historical Society remains in force, and it virtually includes that also of all copies of the medal itself, save those whose destination was provided for by the City Council in Joint Convention in 1876.

After the above paper was read, David King, Esq., of Washington, executor of the estate of the late Dr. King of Newport, wrote me that the dies of the medal were in his custody, and would be delivered to the Newport City Government on their order, and also any medal or medals that might be found, if it should appear that the city had property in them. In any case, Mr. King added, if a copy was discovered in silver, it would be sent to the Newport Historical Society. At the regular monthly meeting of the Society on 21 June, Mr. Brinley announced that his correspondence with Mayor Powel and Mr. King had resulted in the receipt by the Society of the dies and the silver medal which had been voted to it by the City. This was exhibited, and also, through the courtesy of Mr. B. B. H. Sherman, the gold medal itself which had been presented to Mr. Howland.

A GOLD MEDAL FOR PHILLIPS EXETER ACADEMY.

TWELVE students of Princeton College, formerly students of Phillips Exeter Academy, and still retaining an affection for their first love, have offered a gold medal to be given for the best declamation,—the speaking open to representatives of the literary societies of the academy. The contest was to take place the last week in May.

We trust the above will be a true *Medal*, and not an engraved disk of metal, which is unfortunately the fashion in many places, but which has no title to the name of "Medal," to our thinking.

COINAGE OF THE MEXICAN REVOLUTIONARY GENERAL MORELOS.

This paper, based upon an important find, was read before the American Numismatic and Archæological Society, of New York, June 2, by MR. LYMAN HAYNES LOW, its Librarian, and is published by the kind permission of the Society's Room Committee.

JOSE MARIA MORELOS, whose full name was Jose Maria Morelos y Pavon, according to his baptismal registry in Valladolid (where the record is still preserved) was christened Jose Maria Teclo. He was born at the rancho Tahuejo el Chico, near Apatzingan, on the 30th of September, 1765. In October, 1810, when a curate in Nucupetaro, in Valladolid, he joined the insurgent General Hidalgo, against the Spaniards, and received commission to act as Captain General of the Provinces on the southwest coast. After the death of Hidalgo, who was shot on the 30th of July, 1810, at Chihuahua, each provisional leader acted independently, and, although Rayon, who was commissioned Commander-in-chief, was not generally acknowledged, he later became President, and was followed by Liceaga. At the Apatzingan Congress, October 22, 1814, Morelos was deputy for Nuevo Leon, and, with Liceaga and Cos, formed the executive, when the former attained to the Presidency.

Morelos was captured at Tezmalaca, Nov. 5, 1815, and shot at San Cristobal Ecatepec, a suburb of the City of Mexico, December 22, forty-seven days after his capture. Mr. Hubert Howe Bancroft, in his *History of the Pacific States*, makes mention of him as follows: "His countrymen have placed him next to Hidalgo in the rank of patriot liberators, and justly so, for, if the latter started the revolution, Morelos nobly carried on the great work, and more ably, it must be admitted. While possessing little book learning, he had what far outweighed it — genius: which, when the summons came, transformed the benign cura into the greatest and most successful military leader among the insurgents, — at least till Iturbide joined them. He revived an almost extinct cause, found for it a new cradle in the mountains of Mizteca, laying at its feet the whole rich south: he raised it to the greatest height attained, ere came the end, crowning his work with the declaration of absolute independence from Spain, and the formation of a true republican government. His task was done. From that moment his star declined, to set within a year."

In August, 1885, a young American archæologist, while excavating a small tumulus near Tlacoachahuaya, in the State of Oaxaca, Mexico, found a straw pouch or bag, containing four hundred and twenty-eight copper coins, all of the type issued by Morelos. The denominations of the coins, the number of each, with the year in which they were struck, were as follows: — 1811, 2-Reales, 4; 1812, 8-Reales, 31; 2-Reales, 258; 1-Real, 2; 1813, 8-Reales, 59; 2-Reales, 74; total, 428 pieces. These include all of the types known in this metal, and among them are varieties which the most careful researches on the subject warrant us in concluding are unpublished, if not altogether unknown. Such a hoard of these pieces has never before been found, and its discovery is therefore thought to be of sufficient interest and importance to form the subject of a paper. The issues in silver being few, it has been deemed better to include them also, and thus afford a general review of the coinage. For the purpose of description, a selection is made of twenty-nine specimens, which represent all the types and marked varieties, and will serve as a basis for further and more extended observation.

1811.

I. 8-REALES, *Silver*. Obverse, Monogram of Morelos | 8-R. | 1811 within a rude wreath of leaves and roses; reverse, a bow with arrow resting perpendicularly on the bowstring: beneath, SUD (the Spanish for South) with a wreath similar to that on the obverse, but without flowers. With a single exception, hereafter noted, this is the only piece in the series, in this metal, struck from dies.

II. 2-REALES, *Copper*. Both obverse and reverse similar in design to I, but without wreath; milled border. From dies, as are all in copper which are genuine.

This variety prevails throughout the three years' coinage, and may be designated as the common or general one. The find produced four of these, all from different dies, and the first that I have met with.

1812.

III. 8-REALES, *Silver*. Same variety as II, but the border has a circle around it, formed by a dot and dash alternating. This peculiar variety of border was not in the find. Description is taken from Fonrobert Catalogue. *Not* among my exhibits.

IV. 8-REALES, *Silver*. Design copied from I. The wreath on the reverse is here broken, a branch from each end of the bow meets above the arrow-point. Below SUD (which has a small Roman u instead of the capital letter) is an ornament and two branches. This piece and the preceding one are unlike other casts which are described below, in not having been finished by tooling.

V. 8-REALES, *Silver*. The obverse has a more perfect wreath, in which there are tulips and roses; the date is punctuated, which is not the case in other denominations, with the exception of a single specimen of Two-Reales, 1812 (copper). The reverse shows equal improvement. Two long leaves nearly encircle the bow and arrow, their stems meeting above u in SUD. The borders have a broad milling (as is the case with all Eight and Two-Real casts hereafter noted), and they appear to have received a finish after having been taken from the moulds.

VI. 2-REALES, *Silver*. Same type as V.

VII. 8-REALES, *Copper*. A similar piece to I. The only specimen of the variety bearing this date in the find, and the only one known to me.

VIII. 8-REALES, *Copper*. Variety copied from IV, and closely resembling it, with such differences only as would be likely to result from having been struck from dies instead of cast. There were two specimens in the find.

IX. 8-REALES, *Copper*. Same variety as II, with broad pointed milling around the border.

X. 8-REALES, *Copper*. Variety copied from III its prototype, (the same as IV is to VIII,) not in the find. A small circular counterstamp on the obverse, contains the monogram of Morelos, with a star above and below it. This impress obliterates the original monogram, and is in the same position on all that have received it. It is a fact worthy of notice that this denomination and type (already designated as the common one) occurring with the dates of 1812 and 1813, have alone been counter-stamped. Of this date, so marked, there were five in the find.

XI. 8-REALES, *Copper*. Another marked difference in the border, which has a circle of dots, and a line formed of the same, beneath the bow. From the find, and nowhere duplicated.

XII. 8-REALES, *Copper*. A change in the form of the bow, the centre of which is straight, and the arrow feathered, extending below the bow-string, passing between the uprights of u in SUD. But two of this variety in *Eight-Reales*, were in the find, each from a different die, and both new to me.

XIII. 2-REALES, *Copper*. Variety same as VII. Four only of these were in the find, three of them clearly showing that they were struck upon planchets which had previously received an impression from dies. The specimen here exhibited has A | HO on the reverse, plainly distinguishable, in the centre of the field: whether a coin or hacienda piece, is unknown to me.

XIV. 2-REALES, *Copper*. Another of the four last referred to, but differing in the obverse. The monogram, value and date, are in the usual order, but a long inward curve, at either side, extends from the former to the latter, while from the curve to the edge are parallel lines resembling milling.

XV. 2-REALES, *Copper*. Same variety as IX.

XVI. 2-REALES, *Copper*. Same variety as XI, and like that without a duplicate, if four others which I believe to be counterfeit are excluded.

XVII. 2-REALES, *Copper*. The arrow is the same as on XII, the bow of the usual type. Four of these were in the find, all of a low order of art and imperfectly struck.

XVIII. 1-REAL, *Copper*. Similar to II. Two of these were in the find, and another is known, much superior in workmanship to either of them.

1813.

XIX. 8-REALES, *Silver*. Same as V, but with 2 in date altered (in the mould) to 3, with a period following.

XX. 8-REALES, *Silver*. Here a second and more successful attempt to change the figure 2 to a 3 has been made, and the punctuation and period after the date have been removed. Otherwise as the last.

XXI. 1-REAL, *Silver*. The general design as the preceding, but the obverse has a fairly executed wreath of small leaves of uniform shape around the border.

XXII. 1-REAL, *Silver*. Here the letter M takes the place of the monogram, with a wreath similar to the last. Reverse, design the same as V.

XXIII. MEDIO-REAL. As the last; M | M. R. | 1813. The reverse has a wreath the same as that on the obverse; the other leaves and ornaments are omitted.

XXIV. MEDIO-REAL, *Silver*. Obverse, AMERICA MORELOS; a lion rampant to the left. *Ex.* 1813. Reverse, PROVINCIAL DE OAXACA; in the field a bow and arrow. Struck from dies. No varieties known, and the only appearance of this type.

XXV. 8-REALES, *Copper*. Same variety as VII, and there appears to have been a plentiful issue of this date, as demonstrated by the find. Only four of them, however, had the figure 3 with a round top.

XXVI. 8-REALES, *Copper*. Same design as IX, differing only in date.

XXVII. 8-REALES, *Copper*. Same variety as IX. Counterstamped same as X. Six in the find.

XXVIII. 8-REALES, *Copper*. We now come to the most perfect work, both in die cutting and striking, found in the copper pieces, if not in the whole coinage. The reverse has a straight-top bow (not unlike XII) beneath * T * C * | * SUD *. The borders have a circle composed of eight-pointed stars and nopal leaves in line of circle, alternating * * * * *. Stars are also used for punctuations. There were four of these in the find, a variety before unknown to me. I find in *Biographie Générale*, Vol. 36, p. 543, the statement that "Morelos received the command of a corps of 7,000 men, destined to propagate the insurrection in the 'Tierra Caliente' (warm land), which extends along the coast of the Pacific in the western part of Mexico. From the letters, I think it possible this type may have been issued for *Tierra Caliente*."

The superiority of workmanship indicates an organized force and proper appliances for coining. It seems fair to consider this as the last coinage.

XXIX. 2-REALES, *Copper*. As the last; five in the find.

XXX. 2-REALES, *Copper*. Same variety as IX.

XXXI. MEDIO REAL, *Copper*. From the same mould as XXIII, but not in the find, and not believed to be a piece of the period. The edge shows a perfection of finish found in none of the preceding. This is a cast, all of which in this metal, as I have already stated, I regard as counterfeits. A place is given to it here, merely as an example of a modern imposition.

An attempt to note, in this paper, various differences of the dies, etc., would, I fear, be trespassing upon time and patience, and I shall content myself with brief remarks upon the principal features of the coinage.

The monogram of Morelos is certainly original and most peculiar in construction. It appears to be a combination of the letters mos, or, if mentioned in the order they are used, smo. It is not difficult, however, on a well executed piece, to find all of the letters in the name of Morelos, and the word is completed by repeating the letter o.

The value and date have many variations, in the position, size and formation of the figures and letters, and in punctuation, whether preceding, intervening, or following. Again in some instances, all or part are omitted. On one of the Two-Real pieces of 1812, there is a colon (:) between 2 and R., and the same mark in one other instance follows SUD.

The bow has many changes from the narrow and long to the short and almost oval or semi-circular form, while at times it simulates a pair of slender wings.

The bow-string is found both plain and feathered, sometimes to the right, again to the left; it is usually straight, but on a few pieces, where the ends of the bow turn up, the centre is slack.

The arrow being short and plain in construction, offers less opportunity for difference: in fact there is no portion of the device so uniform. The exceptions noted in XII and XVII are increased by two of the Two-Real pieces of 1812, where the arrow, although not feathered, extends below the bow-string. It may be proper here to note that on a few of the Eight and Two-Reales of 1812 only, the arrow has a dot at either side of it, above the bow-string.

The oddities selected for special mention are from the Two-Real pieces, which with two exceptions are dated 1812. This appears to be the eventful period in the history of the coinage, as will be seen by the find, two-thirds of the pieces being of that date. One has a star preceding, intervening and following the value, and two have arrow points between the value, with a period before and after the date: o in the monogram joining and forming a part of a well-defined RO, one: SUD in retrograde *i. e.* letters are reversed from the usual form and the word reading from right to left, two: the letter s on one, and the figure 2 on another are reversed. SUD is once found terminating beneath the centre of the bow, under the arrow. Two have the monogram low down in the field, dividing the value (and there are two of the Eight-Real pieces belonging to the same category). Three others have the bow separated in the middle, the ends curving in, with the arrow passing between them free from contact. I will mention two only of 1813, and conclude my references to the freaks of the engravers. One of these has an inverted figure 3, and the other has the date lengthened to 18813.

Some of these peculiarities may perhaps belong to a large class which have been branded as counterfeits. The issue of such pieces appears to have grown to alarming proportions, and I believe it to be the reason for the introduction of the counterstamp on the Eight-Real pieces, which probably began in 1813. The smaller values being so numerous, a check on the larger ones was in all likelihood thought sufficient to have a general effect, as few of the latter were imitated.

One of the Two-Reales, undoubtedly counterfeit, has also a fraudulent counterstamp, — the only instance where this denomination has received such an impression, and unlike the genuine it is placed on the reverse instead of the obverse.

It is plain that there were several mints in operation, and as to the number of workmen who practiced die-sinking, there are indications that the followers of Morelos were constantly levied upon for skill or aptitude in this line of art. The number of dies appears to have been countless. Sixty-five Two-Real pieces revealed forty-seven different dies. The unevenness of the striking, by reason of inexperience and crude appliances, renders comparison difficult. I judge that nothing harder than copper was used to engrave upon, and to this must be attributed the almost total absence of broken dies, for in such metal a break means destruction.

A custom prevailed of punching over, with a hand stamp, the letters or figures which had been imperfectly brought out. This occurs only on the Two-Real pieces, (and in each year of the coinage,) notwithstanding the larger values had similar and as frequent defects. To the softness of the dies may also be attributed the abandonment of striking silver, and the substitution of the method of casting, after the first attempt in 1811, as described under I, where the impression is weak and unsuccessful in the harder silver metal.

I can offer no satisfactory explanation for the issue of the same denominations in the same year in both copper and silver, although the fact indicates method. No die, however, is found to have been used on more than one metal.

Muling was practiced, but to no great extent. Size and weight demonstrate but little in this rude coinage, issued in times of dire necessity, for it is not plain that either was considered. This is most noticeable in the Eight and Two-Real pieces in copper where some specimens of the same nominal value are fully double others in every measurement.

The following notes taken from Bancroft, Vol. VII, may prove to be of interest and value, and possibly lead to identification in some instances. They refer to coins, medals or tokens struck in the different parts of Mexico between the years 1810 and '15.

1. To inspire the fainting hearts of the people with some confidence, Venegas caused the sacred image of Los Remedios . . . to be conveyed from its shrine to the cathedral. The presence of this protecting image greatly allayed the panic, while the soldiery, confident of victory with the Queen of Heaven on their side, begged for medals stamped with her likeness. A private individual distributed 5,930 of such medals among the officers and soldiers of the line regiments of New Spain, the provincial regiments of Mexico, Toluca, Quautitlan, Tres Villas and Tulancingo, and the city squadron (Mexico) 1810. (p. 187.)

2. Hidalgo is said to have worn, suspended from his neck, a large gold medal, bearing the image of the Virgin of Guadeloupe.

3. The establishment of a Mint was found necessary, and, on the 5th of October, 1810, the work of constructing the machinery and dies was commenced at Guanajuato, Jose Mariano de Robles being made Superintendent. The establishment was almost completed by the 25th of November, when the Spanish army, under Calleja, entered the city and took possession of it. The artisans displayed great skill in the construction of the machinery and implements, and in the engraving of the dies; they were so perfect as to rival those in the Mint at Mexico, to which city all of the appliances were carried as trophies. (p. 166.)

4. Venegas, in a letter to Calleja, dated December 16, 1810, replies to request from the Brigadier that a medal be presented to his soldiers. (p. 237.)

5. A medal was struck in commemoration of Trujillo's asserted victories in defending Hidalgo's attack on the capital, and the success of the royal arms. This medal was presented February 3d, 1811. (p. 184.)

6. Villagran held sway at Zimapan in semi-independence of other revolutionary chiefs, under the pompous title of Julian I, Emperor of the Huasteca (Calleja declared). Alaman had heard that he even coined money with this inscription. 1813, (p. 508, 526.)

7. Liceaga established a mint at Yuriria 1812. (p. 393.)

8. The troops of Calleja were rewarded with medals and promotion. The medal bore the name of Fernando VII, supported by a dog and a lion, symbolical of faithfulness and courage, and, on the borders, the words "VENCIO EN ACULCO GUANAJUATO Y CALDERON," 1812. (p. 359.)

9. Coins were made by Osorno under Beristain's direction at Zacatlan, April, 1812. (p. 406.)

10. Ignacio Lopez Rayon caused silver to be coined at Zacatecas during his stay of less than a month; although the coins were of inferior workmanship they were preferred at Vera Cruz, their value being at the rate of 9 reales to the peso fuerte; they bore the initial L. v. O., which, according to Bustamante meant *Labor Vincit Omnia*. Negrete suggests *Levantaos Vivientes Oprimidos*. One-third of the metal mined went to the laborers, — it is said thousands toiled night and day. April, 1811. (p. 309.)

11. Vargas figured as Comandante-General of the Province of Nueva Galicia, for Rayon, 1813. (p. 538.)

12. The 10,000 and more pesos in copper, held by the treasurer Berazaluze, had to be abandoned for lack of mules on the road to Tlacotepec, where Congress was re-opened January 29, 1814. (p. 576.)

13. Alvarez marched unmolested to Oaxaca, which opened its gates with ovations, March 29, 1814. Assuming the Government of the Province, he began at once a series of reforms, by reinstating former officials and appointing new incumbents, *withdrawing the copper coinage* introduced in the Constitution of 1812. (p. 581.)

14. A medal of the Apatzingan Congress (Liceaga, President) was struck to commemorate the installation of the Deputies at Ario, October 22, 1814, at an expense of \$8,000. Morelos was Deputy for Nuevo Leon. (p. 604, where there is an engraving of the medal.)

15. Calleja ordered a new copper coinage to replace the immense variety of copper tokens circulated from every large store under the name of *tlacos* and *pilonos*, the former the term used for an eighth-real, and the latter, piles, evidently an ironic expression. Each store had its own stamp, which was also placed on pieces of wood and soap. The issue was also to remedy the growing scarcity of small silver money such as half and quarter-reales.

At first the coinage fell into discredit through the objections raised by merchants, but the issue being restricted to prudent limits, and its proportion in payments being regulated, a decided benefit was experienced. 1814. (p. 594.)

In conclusion it is hoped that some new light has been thrown upon numismatic science by this fresh store of coins. A more extended and detailed account might be proper and opportune to form a record; but, with the limited time at my disposal, only a cursory glance has been given. This simple array of facts may, however, suffice to lead to further investigation of this interesting coinage of the western world, and thus form a basis for a more exhaustive study, which, from its closely allied associations, cannot fail to attract the attention and excite the interest of all lovers of the science.

THE BOATS OF GOLD.

THE Museum of Northern Antiquities in Copenhagen has just been enriched by a remarkable discovery made at a small place near Thisted, on the west coast of Jutland, Denmark. Two men digging in a gravel pit in the neighborhood of an old burial mound, called Thor's Mound, struck an earthen vessel with their picks, disclosing a number of gold pieces. On examination it was found that an earthen vessel of about seven inches diameter at the rim, and covered with a flat stone, had been buried about a foot and a half below the surface, and this had contained about one hundred little golden boats, curiously worked, varying in size from three to four and a half inches. A gunwale and frames of thin strips of bronze had first been formed, and these had been covered with thin gold plates, some of which were further ornamented with impressions of concentric rings. The boats, of which only a few are in a fair state of preservation, are tapered at both ends, and resemble the Danish fishing craft of the present day. This discovery, which may be regarded as a deposited treasure of votive offerings, and belongs, doubtless, to the close of the bronze age, proves that frame-built vessels were already known at that time, and that man was not satisfied with the hollowed-out trunks of trees. The gold of which these little fishing models are composed, was valued at £27, which amount, together with a gratuity, has been forwarded to the finders, who are both poor men.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

WASHINGTON MEDAL.

IN answer to a query printed in the *Numismatic Journal* of April, 1886, page 95, in regard to the Washington Medal, I give the following copy of a newspaper account of it, printed August 12, 1776.

"The Congress have struck a number of silver and copper medals, which are distributed among the officers of the army, who wear them constantly. On one side are two vases swimming on the water, with the motto 'Frangimur si collidimur'; on the other is an emblematical device; four hands clinched together and a dove over them, beneath them is a serpent cut in pieces. These medals were designed or executed by P. E. Du Simitiere."

The Journals of Congress, November 29, 1776, page 485, state, "Paid P. E. Du Simitiere for designing, making and drawing a medal for General Washington, \$32."

P. E. Du Simitiere was a painter from Geneva. He practiced taking portraits, but not until he had been in Philadelphia over twenty years. He made a collection in natural history for an institution in that city, and was living there in 1782.

This medal in many respects seems to resemble one in my collection of considerable historical interest, which I obtained from England many years since. It is of pure silver, and is said to have belonged to the collection of Thomas Hollis. According to my copy of

Camden's "Remaines concerning Brittain," London edition, 1629, page 191, "About that time (1594), when some dislikes grew between the English and the States of the United Provinces, they fearing that it might tend to the hurt of both, caused to bee imprinted two pitchers floating on the water upon a medallia, with 'Si collidimur, frangimur.'"

"In the like sence there were coyned pieces with two oxen drawing the plough, the one marked with a rose for England, the other with a lyon on the shoulder for Holland, and written thereby, 'Trahite aequo iugo.'"

From "Memoirs of Thomas Hollis, Esq., etc., London, 1780," page 283, I quote the following, in reply to a letter of Dr. Mayhew, November 18, 1765:—"I have been extremely concerned, afflicted at the present sad, melancholy state of affairs between England and her colonies. The reverse of a Dutch medal, struck in their early troubles, two earthen vessels floating upon the waters, inscription, 'Frangimur si collidimur,' suits exactly to their case."

Salem, Mass., May 15, 1886.

MATTHEW A. STICKNEY.

COIN SALES.

S. H. & H. CHAPMAN sold the Collections of Dr. Carson and S. P. Nichols at S. V. Henkels & Co., Philadelphia, on the 27th and 28th of May. The catalogue contained 1023 lots, which embraced specimens of Fractional Currency, Confederate and Continental money and Numismatic works. Nothing of special value was in either collection; we note the prices of a few which were of some interest. Pine-tree Shilling, fair, \$4.85; Newby Halfpenny, fine, 2; French-American Medal, Lud. XV, rev., Indian, "Col. Franc de l'Am 1757," fine, 5.10; N. Y. Cent. Nova Eborac, rev. Liberty, 1787, f., 3; Half Eagle 1807, v. f., 5.30; do., 5.25; Silver Dollar, 1801, v. f., 4; do., 1851, ex. f., 46. *Half Dollars*.—1796, 15 stars, v. g., 68; 1802, v. g., 4.20; '15, f., 5.90; '36, Gobrecht head, unc., 4; '40, rev. '39, 2.10; '52, ex. f., 4; '52, f., 3. *Quarter Dollars*.—1805, v. f., 2; '07 and '15, v. f., 2 each; '52, unc., scarce, 1.05; '85, brilliant proof, 32 (!) *Twenty Cents*.—1877, p., 2.10; '78, 2.05. *Dimes*.—1807, g., 1; '09, f., 3; '24, f., 1.70. *Half Dimes*.—1803, g., 3.60; '46, v. g., 2.50; '60, with stars, 3.10. *Three Cents*, Silver.—1863, unc., 1; '64, un., 1.50; '65, p., 1.15; '66, p., 1.05. *Cents*.—1793, Liberty cap, f., 16; '99, v. g., 16; 1804, v. r., 15; '05, v. f., 2.60; '09, v. g., 2.05; '14, v. f., 2.05; '28, l. date, unc., 2.60; '28, small date, 4; '35, unc., fine, 10.75; '36, unc., 4.50. Half Eagle, 1795, v. f., 10.25. Quarter Dollar, 1853, without arrows or rays, v. g., 5. Cent of 1837, v. f., 15. Pattern Quarter Dollar, 1859, 3 long arrows, p., 4. Confederate Half Dollar, restrike, 1861, 3.60. One Cent, nickel, 1856, flying eagle, p., 3.15. Amount of sale \$1,336.53.

THE HOWARD COLLECTION.

ON the 3d June, a collection made by Mr. Winslow J. Howard, of Silver City, New Mexico, was sold in New York by Bangs & Co. It contained rare and choice specimens of coins and medals of Mexico and Spanish American Countries, a number of the gold pieces struck in Colorado, some of which were among the rarest of these private issues, and twenty-five lots of the Jackson or Hard Times Tokens, containing about sixty differing specimens, to which increased attention has lately been given in consequence of the publication by Mr. Low of his minutely descriptive and illustrated catalogue of these pieces. The Catalogue—36 pages and 449 lots—was prepared by Mr. Low, and was handsomely printed. We quote a few prices as follows:—Cent of 1799, v. g. date very plain, \$14.75; 8-Reale piece of Morelos, 1813, 225; Mexican Provisional Dollar, 1811, (*Suprema Junta*), cast, v. f. and r. 24; Pattern Dollar of Pres. Victoria 1824, unc. and v. r., proof surface, 31; Zacatecas Dollar of Ferdinand VII, 1811, v. g., 21; War medal on expulsion of French, of iridescent bronze, radiant cross with original ribbon, v. r. 3.90; Gold Proclamation Doubloon of Ferdinand VII, struck in 1808, unc. size 24, v. r. and doubtful if a duplicate exists in this country, 25.50; another Peruvian piece, in gold, 25 pesos, with bust of Bolivar, only two struck in this metal, 40; a crown of Charles II, Naples 1684, *unus non sufficit*, which sold for 19 in the Bushnell sale, brought only 3.75. The Pike's Peak gold brought excellent prices, from 50 to 100 per cent above their intrinsic value, and the whole sale was quite a successful one.

BOOK NOTICES.

AN ACCOUNT OF VARIOUS SILVER AND COPPER MEDALS PRESENTED TO THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS BY THE SOVEREIGNS OF ENGLAND, FRANCE AND SPAIN FROM 1600 TO 1800, AND ESPECIALLY OF FIVE SUCH MEDALS OF GEORGE I. OF GREAT BRITAIN, NOW IN THE POSSESSION OF THE WYOMING HISTORICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, AND ITS MEMBERS. READ BEFORE THE WYOMING HISTORICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1885, BY REV. HORACE EDWIN HAYDEN, CURATOR OF NUMISMATICS. *Reprinted from* part 2, vol. II. of the *Proceedings of the Society*. WILKESBARRE, PA., 1885. 8vo., pp. 26.

Mr. Hayden, in preparing this valuable paper, has searched through two hundred coin catalogues running over a period of thirty years for sales of Indian medals, and from these and

other sources he has gathered up many interesting historic facts relating to the medals which have been presented to Indian Chieftains. He has given descriptions of several of these decorations preserved in private cabinets, some of which we do not remember to have seen so fully or clearly described before. He mentions a fact that will probably be new to our readers: "The Indian thought his allegiance was limited simply to the time during which he permitted that silver disc to be on his breast, and that when he parted with it or lost it his allegiance was ended." And he says further, "When the United States purchased the Northwest Territory from France, Lieutenant Pike, of the United States Army, was at once sent up the Great River to proclaim the authority of the United States, which he did, partly in demanding the surrender of all foreign medals in possession of the Indian tribes, and by exacting from the British and French agents a promise that they would henceforth make no more such presentations. A similar precautionary movement was made during the late war between the States. Fearing the interposition of the English Government, in recognizing and aiding the Confederate States of America, the United States Indian agents were ordered to search among the Indian tribes for foreign medals, demand their surrender, and give American medals in their stead."

"December 20, 1756, at a conference between M. de Vaudeville, Governor General of Canada, and the Indian deputies of the Eight Nations, two English medals were surrendered. At which time Kouee, an Oneida Chief, said: — 'Father, we cannot retain two medals which we have formerly had the folly to accept from our brethren, the English, as a mark of distinction. We acknowledge that these medals have been the true cause of our error, and that they have plunged us into bad business. We strip ourselves of them. We cast them from us in order not to think any more of the English.'"

EDITORIAL.

THE *Journal* "comes of age" with the present, its twenty-first volume, but it still hopes for the *support* of all its old friends, and desires to welcome hosts of new contributors, both to its subscription list, and to its pages. No effort will be spared on the part of those to whom its publication has been entrusted, to make it worthy of its past reputation, and to increase its value as a fair representative of American Numismatics.

THE very carefully prepared paper in this number by Mr. Low, on the coins of necessity issued by the Revolutionary General Morelos, in Mexico, early in the present century, describes all the different issues that are known. Several of these pieces sold well in a recent sale conducted by Mr. Low. We observe that the rarer Mexican coins are bringing much better prices than formerly, and it is evident that some of our collectors have quietly turned their attention to these pieces, and are enriching their cabinets with coins that, before long, we believe will be far more eagerly sought for and highly valued than they are at present. It is strange that they should have been so long neglected, when we consider that here are found the earliest examples of American coinage; and the historic associations connected with these various mintages, Spanish, Revolutionary and National, invest them with peculiar interest. The researches of Numismatists like Mr. Brevoort, Mr. Betts and others in this direction are bearing fruit, and we trust this rich field will be assiduously cultivated.

We are obliged to omit our usual reports of Proceedings of Numismatic Societies, in this number, but as we print two papers read at meetings of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society in their stead, we doubt not our readers will be as well satisfied. Some other articles of interest are also necessarily omitted, among which we mention a description of an early and very rare paper issue, of Massachusetts, Book notices, Coin sales, etc., which will appear in our next, with abstracts of the various proceedings of Societies which have been sent us by Mr. Poillon and Mr. Drowne.

CURRENCY.

THE trouble with our silver dollar appears to lie between the lack of sense among those who persist in its coinage and the lack of cents in its value.